CHARTER AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

UNION SCHOOL

AND

CHILDREN'S HOME.

PHILADELPHIA:
KING & BAIRD, PRINTERS, 9 SANSOM ST.
1851.

MANAGERS.

Mrs. Joel Jones, *President.*
" Wm. R. Hanson, *Vice President.*
" John W. Claghorn,
" John C. Pechin,
" George H. Stuart,
" H. Davis,
" Esther Moore,
" Thomas R. Maris,
" Rene Guillou,
Miss Jane Lang,
" Hetty Bruce,
" Sally Howell,
" Anna Weir,
" Lucy Sulger,
" Susan O'Neill,
" Margaret Linnard,
Mrs. Condy Raguet,
" A. V. Parsons.

AN ACT to Incorporate the UNION SCHOOL and CHILDREN'S HOME ASYLUM, &c. &c.

APPROVED MARCH 12, 1851.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That there shall be and hereby is established in the city or county of Philadelphia, an asylum, by the name and style of "The Union School and Children's Home," the object and design of which institution shall be to afford a home, food, clothing and schooling for destitute orphan children, and for such poor children as may be neglected or deserted by their parents.

SECTION 2. That the trustees of the said asylum shall for the time being, and until others shall be appointed in the manner hereinafter provided, consist of the following persons, to wit: William D. Kelley, Joel Jones, John Farnum, John W. Claghorn, John C. Pechin, J. Fisher Leaming, William R. Hanson, Horatio

C. Wood, Martin Thayer, Rene Guillou, and their associates, at present managers of said institution, heretofore known as the "Moyamensing Union School and Children's Home," which said trustees and their successors shall be and are hereby declared to be a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of "The Trustees of the Union School and Children's Home," and by the same name they shall have perpetual succession, and shall be capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in all courts of record and elsewhere, and shall be competent and capable in law and equity to take and to hold to them and their successors, for the use of said asylum, lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods, chattels, rights, interests, and effects of any kind, nature or quality whatsoever, by gift, grant, bargain, sale, conveyance, assurance, will, testament, devise or bequest, from any person or persons capable of making the same, and the same from time to time to grant, bargain, sell, demise, alien, lease and dispose of, for the use of the said asylum, and they shall have power to purchase or erect such building or buildings as may be necessary for the

purposes of said institution, and power also to do all and singular the things necessary, proper and lawful to be done for the well-being of the said institution, and the due management and well-ordering of the affairs thereof: *Provided*, That the clear yearly income of the lands and tenements to be taken and holden as aforesaid shall not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars.

SECTION 3. That the said trustees and their successors shall have power and authority to make and use a common seal, and to alter and change the same at their pleasure.

SECTION 4. That the said trustees shall hold their first meeting on the first Tuesday of May next, in the city of Philadelphia, at such place and hour as they or a majority of them shall designate, and they or their successors shall meet annually in October in each succeeding year, at such time and place as by their by-laws they shall appoint, they shall have power at the meetings so to be holden in connexion with the life-members of this institution, to elect trustees in the place of those who may be removed

by death, resign, cease to act, or otherwise relinquish the said trust.

SECTION 5. That the said trustees and their successors shall have power to make all by-laws necessary or proper for the government of their own proceedings, and for the management of the said institution: *Provided*, The same be not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, also to appoint a president, treasurer, secretary, and such other officers as the convenient management of the affairs of the said corporation may require.

SECTION 6. That the said trustees and their successors shall have power also to meet from time to time, whenever and so often as the interests of said asylum may require, in such manner and according to such regulations as they may by their by-laws direct, and they shall have power at any meeting convened as aforesaid to appoint such teachers, managers, visitors, and care-takers as may be necessary or proper for the instruction, control and care of the children received into the said asylum, and to attain in the best manner the objects of the same, and

to do all such other business as the proper management of the funds and the general interests and concerns of said corporation may require.

SECTION 7. That the said trustees shall have power to receive and to retain under their control all such poor children under the age of thirteen years, as may be brought to the said asylum, for the purpose of being received into the same by the father of such children, if he be living, or if he be dead by the mother of the said children, also all such orphan children and all such other children as may be neglected or deserted by their parents or their surviving parent, which shall be brought to them for the purpose aforesaid, subject, nevertheless, in these last mentioned cases to the approval of a judge of a court of record for the city and county aforesaid, and the said children, when so received, to detain, maintain, educate and control, until proper persons can be found who may be willing to receive them as apprentices to some useful art, trade, calling or employment, and thereupon the said trustees, or a committee of their board appointed for that purpose, shall have power,

with the assent of any alderman, justice of the peace or judge of a court of record of the said city or county, to bind by indenture the said children, or any of them, as apprentices as aforesaid, in the case of males until the age of twenty-one years, and in the case of females until the age of eighteen years, stipulating and agreeing, nevertheless, on behalf of the child in every such indenture that the master or mistress shall provide meat, medicine, clothing, lodging, instruction, and all other things necessary, usual or proper for the comfort and support of the child so to be bound, and for his or her well-being and advancement in life, which indentures so made shall be of full force and effect for all and singular the purposes therein specified as aforesaid.

SECTION 8. That no misnomer of the said corporation shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise or bequest to the said corporation: *Provided*, It shall sufficiently appear by the will, gift, grant or other writing, that the party making the same intended to give or pass thereby to the said corporation the interest or estate therein expressed or described.

BY-LAWS.

MEETINGS.

1. Meetings of the Trustees may be held at any time, at the request in writing of any four members of the Board of Trustees.

Stated meetings of the Managers on the first Wednesday of each month, at eleven o'clock in the morning.

The annual meeting of the Society on the first Tuesday of October. At the annual meeting, reports of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees, also of the Board of Managers, embracing the financial concerns of the institution, shall be presented.

MEMBERSHIP.

2. Twenty-five dollars paid at one time shall constitute life-membership, and any person contributing annually to the funds of the Society, shall be considered a member of the same.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

3. Within four days after the annual meeting, the Trustees shall meet and elect a President and Secretary of the Board of Trustees, an Indenturing Committee, and a Committee on Accounts, also eighteen Managers, a Matron, and Teacher. At the first stated meeting of the Managers, after their election, they shall appoint a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, from their own number. They shall have power to fill vacancies occurring in their own body during the year. They shall also at the same meeting appoint the following Committees, viz: A Committee on admission and dismission; a Committee on education; a Committee on

household and supplies. The Trustees shall be entitled to a seat at the meetings of the Board of Managers.

DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS.

4. The President of the Board of Managers, or in her absence one of the Vice-Presidents, shall at the time of meeting take the Chair, open the meeting, call for the Minutes of the preceding meeting, preserve order, appoint all Committees, unless otherwise provided for, and give a casting vote in case of a tie.

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

5. The Secretary shall make minutes of all meetings, issue all notices, make all written communications directed by the Board, conduct the correspondence, and prepare the annual report. She shall preserve copies of all her communications, and take charge of all records and papers not connected with the office of Treasurer.

DUTIES OF THE TREASURER.

6. The Treasurer shall hold the evidence of all property belonging to the Society, receive their money, and deposit the same officially in one of the City Banks, make no payments but by a written order from the President, keep a fair account of receipts and expenditures, which shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Managers. She shall make a monthly summary of the receipts and expenditures to the Board, and an annual report to the Society.

DUTIES OF COMMITTEE ON ADMISSION AND DISMISSION.

7. The Committee on admission and dismission shall meet at the Home on every Wednesday afternoon, at 4 o'clock. To this Committee all applications for admission shall be referred, and by it decided. This Committee shall keep a book of registry, in which they shall enter the

name and age of every child received, also the date of admission, whence and from whom received. If the child has near connexions, note the degree of kindred and residence of the same; ascertain whether the children have had the measles, whooping-cough, small-pox, or scarlet fever, or whether they have been vaccinated. These particulars should have a place on record, together with other circumstances, which may be of importance to them or to us at a future day. If brought by a parent, obtain his or her signature to the form which is provided for the same. Where the child is brought by his friend or well-wisher, call in the aid of the President, or some other member of the Board of Trustees, to secure the approval of a judge of a court of record. When the children are placed out, state particularly with whom, the residence and occupation of master or mistress, and particularly note the day of removal from the "Home," whether by death or otherwise; also the change of place, which may occur, with some of our wards.

DUTIES OF COMMITTEE ON HOUSEHOLD.

8. The Household Committee shall visit the "Home" once a week, and oftener, if necessary. They shall see that its affairs are administered with order, prudence, and economy; also that proper attention is paid to the habits, manners, and persons of the children; also that peace, harmony, and domestic religion are cultivated. They shall ascertain the necessities of the household, and provide for the same. The care of this Committee shall extend to the children's wardrobe. They shall also keep a book for the purpose of entering all gifts and benefits conferred on the institution which do not appear on the Treasurer's record. They shall make a weekly call on the Matron for a report in writing of the same.

DUTIES OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

9. This Committee shall direct the course of instruction, visit the school weekly, and provide furniture, books, and whatever may be needed, for the use of the school.

10. The above named Committees shall render monthly reports to the Board, all of which shall be in writing, as well as all resolutions and resignations.

11. The Board shall be divided into Committees, for the purpose of collecting funds for the support of this institution, which Committees shall report monthly.

12. By special permission of the Board, children under peculiar circumstances, of all ages, may be temporarily sheltered, until some provision can be made for them.

13. These By-Laws may be altered at any stated meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, notice having been given at a previous meeting.